

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02432 281347Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00  
NSCE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 ACDA-12 OMB-01  
SSM-03 /089 W

-----089037 281350Z /47

O R 281243Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7815

INFO SIT-REP COLLECTIVE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USLO RIYADH

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON ENG

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER

COMSIXTHFLT

CTF SIX ZERO

CTF SIX ONE

CTF SIX TWO

CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO

FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA

FOSIF ROTA SPAIN

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2432

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, ASEC, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE SITUATION: APRIL 28, 1300 HOURS LOCAL

REF: BEIRUT 2379 (DTG 261331Z APR 78)

1. SUMMARY: LEBANESE PARLIAMENT APPROVED A DECLARA-  
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 02432 281347Z

TION OF PRINCIPLES WHICH MAY SERVE AS A POINT OF  
DEPARTURE FOR NATIONAL ENTENTE. PIERRE GEMAYEL WILL  
VISIT DAMASCUS TO MEND FENCES. BEIRUT IS QUIET AND CEASE-  
FIRE IS GENERALLY HOLDING IN SOUTH LEBANON. PALESTINIANS  
DISPLAYED ISRAELI PRISONER TO THE PRESS. END SUMMARY.

2. PARLIAMENTARY DECLARATION ADOPTED.

PARLIAMENT ON APRIL 27 ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 74 TO 0 A SIX POINT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPALS WHICH PROVIDES INTER ALIA FOR: "CESSATION OF ARMED PALESTINIAN AND NON-PALESTINIAN ACTIVITY ON ALL OF LEBANON'S TERRITORY" AND "PROHIBITION OF ANY ARMED PRESENCE OTHER THAN THE FORCES OF LEGITIMATE LEBANESE AUTHORITY (SEPTEL)." CHRISTIANS AND MOST MOSLEMS PRAISED THE VOTE. TONY FRANJIYAH WAS CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION, BUT WAS NOT AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT. RACHID KARAME WHO WAS ALSO ABSENT, AND MALEK SALAAM WERE CRITICAL OF DECLARATION. THE PRESS SPECULATED THAT THE VOTE WOULD FACILITATE THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT, AND OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER HOSS TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD DESIGNATE A NEW PRIME MINISTER "VERY SOON."

3. GEMAYEL TO DAMASCUS.

PHALANGE PARTY LEADER PIERRE GEMAYEL WILL VISIT DAMASCUS MAY 1 AND CARRY A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SARKIS TO PRESIDENT ASSAD, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. GEMAYEL TOLD REPORTERS "WE DESIRE SYRIAN FRIENDSHIP" AND THAT PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES "CAN BE SOLVED BY GOOD FAITH AND SINCERITY."

4. SITUATION IN BEIRUT.  
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PAGE 03 BEIRUT 02432 281347Z

THE PARLIAMENT'S APPROVAL OF THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPALS HAS EASED TENSIONS WITHIN THE CAPITAL. DURING THE DAY LIFE IS NOW NORMAL, WITH SHOPS AND SCHOOLS OPEN, AND TRAFFIC FLOWING. AT NIGHT, HOWEVER, FEW PEOPLE ARE ON THE STREETS, AND ARMED MEN ARE STILL SEEN ON BOTH SIDES OF TOWN.

4. SOUTH LEBANON.

THE CEASE-FIRE CONTINUES TO HOLD GENERALLY IN SOUTH LEBANON. LOCAL PRESS ON APRIL 27 REPORTED UN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT NIGERIA WOULD BE SENDING A BATTALION FOR SERVICE WITH UNIFIL, WHICH WOULD BRING TOTAL FORCES UP TO ABOUT 4,000. TOTAL UNIFIL STRENGTH IS EXPECTED TO REACH 3900 VERY SHORTLY AS THE SENEGALESE BATTALION COMPLETES ITS DEPLOYMENT HERE. HOWEVER, THE IRANIAN AND SWEDISH UNITS NOW TOTALING ABOUT 400 MEN WILL RETURN TO THEIR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS AND IN SINAI.

5. PLO TRIAL FOR ISRAELI PRISONER.

MOST PAPERS ON APRIL 28 REPORTED A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POPULAR  
FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINIANS/GENERAL COMMAND  
(PFLP/GC) AS SAYING HIS ORGANIZATION WOULD  
TRY AN ISRAELI SOLDIER CAPTURED NEAR RAS AL AYN IN APRIL  
(SEPTTEL). THE PFLP/GC PRESENTED THE PRISONER TO LOCAL  
JOURNALISTS IN SOUTH LEBANON, AND HE TOLD THEM HE WAS  
BEING WELL-TREATED. (SEPTTEL).  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SITREP, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014